# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

IN RE: NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE LITIGATION	)
This document relates to:	)
The County of Summit, Ohio, et al. v. Purdue Pharma L.P., et al. Case No. 18-op-45090	MDL No. 2804 Case No. 17-md-2804 Hon. Judge Dan A. Polster
and	)
The County of Cuyahoga v. Purdue Pharma L.P., et al.  Case No. 1:18-op-45004	) ) ) )

# <u>DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR ACCESS TO</u> JURY SELECTION RECORDS AND INFORMATION

The Defendants listed below<sup>1</sup> respectfully move this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1867(f) of the Jury Selection and Services Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1861, *et seq.* (the "Act"), and the Northern District of Ohio's Juror Selection Plan (adopted July 31, 2014), to allow access to the jury selection records in connection with the Track One trial currently scheduled to begin on October 21, 2019.

On September 11, 2019, Defendants learned for the first time that the Court's Jury

Department had sent out 1,000 summons and was in the process of pre-screening potential jurors

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> AmerisourceBergen Drug Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., McKesson Corporation, Walgreen Co., Walgreen Eastern Co., Henry Schein, Inc., Henry Schein Medical Systems, Inc., Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc. n/k/a Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. n/k/a Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Cephalon, Inc., Watson Laboratories, Inc., Actavis LLC, Actavis Pharma, Inc. f/k/a Watson Pharma, Inc., Warner Chilcott Company, LLC, Actavis South Atlantic LLC, Actavis Elizabeth LLC, Actavis Mid Atlantic LLC, Actavis Totowa LLC, Actavis Kadian LLC, Actavis Laboratories UT, Inc. f/k/a Watson Laboratories, Inc.-Salt Lake City, and Actavis Laboratories FL, Inc., f/k/a Watson Laboratories, Inc.-Florida.

for an eight-week trial. During a September 16, 2019 telephonic hearing, counsel for Janssen raised this issue and asked the Court for additional clarity on how the juror pre-screening process was being conducted. The Court invited the parties to contact the Jury Department for additional information. *See* 9/16/2019 Tr. at 25:11-15. Thereafter on September 17, Defendants contacted the Jury Department and learned that, of the 1,000 pre-screening questionnaires sent out, roughly 725 had been returned. Of the pre-screening questionnaires returned, roughly *500 jurors*—nearly 70 percent of responding potential jurors—have been excused, deferred, and/or exempted for unknown reasons.

Under § 1867(f) of the Act, and in accordance with section Q.3 of the Northern District's Juror Selection Plan,<sup>2</sup> "contents of records or papers used by the jury commission or clerk in connection with the jury selection process" are discoverable for "the preparation or presentation of a motion" brought under subsection (c).<sup>3</sup> 28 U.S.C. § 1867(f). In anticipation of such a motion, Defendants seek these records.

Section 1867(f) mandates that "[t]he parties in a case shall be allowed to inspect, reproduce, and copy such records or papers at all reasonable times during the preparation and pendency of such a motion." *Id.* "This provision makes clear that a litigant has essentially an unqualified right to inspect jury lists[,]" because "without inspection, a party almost invariably would be unable to determine whether he has a potentially meritorious jury challenge." *Test v. United States*, 420 U.S. 28, 30 (1975) (per curium) (footnotes omitted). The United States

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section Q.3 of the Plan provides: "Any request for juror information related to challenging compliance with selection procedures shall be in accordance with 28 USC §§ 1867, 1868."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 28 U.S.C. § 1867(c) provides: "In civil cases, before the voir dire examination begins, or within seven days after the party discovered or could have discovered, by the exercise of diligence, the grounds therefor, whichever is earlier, any party may move to stay the proceedings on the ground of substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title in selecting the petit jury."

Supreme Court has made clear that "an unqualified right to inspection is required not only by the plain text of the statute, but also by the statute's overall purpose of insuring 'grand and petit juries selected at random from a fair cross section of the community." *Id.* "While a motion challenging the jury selection process must be accompanied by a sworn statement of facts, that requirement does not apply to a motion to gain access to jury selection records." *United States v. Williams*, CR. No. 06-00079, 2007 WL 1223449, \*1, \*5-6 (D. Hawaii Apr. 23, 2007) (observing that "[i]n order to obtain evidence to support the sworn statement the litigant is entitled to extremely liberal access to otherwise non-public jury selection records" and permitting defendant to inspect jury selection records including juror questionnaires (quotation marks omitted)). Rather, "[t]o avail himself of the right of access to jury selection records, a litigant need only allege that he is preparing a motion to challenge the jury selection process." *United States v. Royal*, 100 F.3d 1019, 1025 (1st Cir. 1996) (district court erred in requiring any showing of probable success on merits as condition to obtaining jury selection records).

Defendants accordingly request immediate access to obtain copies of the following documents and information, on a continuing basis, in furtherance of its preparation of a motion under §§ 1867(c) and (d) the Act:

- a) All documents reflecting the process by which jurors were selected from the Master Wheel to receive pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires;
- b) A list of all jurors selected from the Master Wheel to receive pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires, and all demographic information available, including age, gender, racial, ethnic, employment, and income information;
- c) All correspondence or communication to or from prospective jurors;
- d) All juror pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires sent to prospective jurors;
- e) A list of all jurors who were sent pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires by the Clerk and/or Court, and all demographic information available, including age, gender, racial, ethnic, employment, and income information;

- f) All responses to juror pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires returned by prospective jurors;
- g) A list of jurors approved for excusal, exception, or deferral, and all demographic information available, including age, gender, racial, ethnic, employment, and income information;
- h) All documents that constitute, pertain, refer, relate, or confirm the Clerk's and/or Court's decision to exclude, except, or defer prospective jurors;
- i) All documents reflecting any efforts to obtain responses from jurors who were selected from the Master Wheel to receive pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires but who did not respond;
- j) All documents reflecting any efforts to verify jurors' pre-qualification forms and/or questionnaires responses;
- k) All documents reflecting policies, rules, regulations, procedures, or other written instructions which exist to instruct employees of the Clerk's Office and/or Court in selecting and compiling jury wheels and juries; and
- 1) All other records or papers used by the Clerk's Office and/or Court in connection with the jury selection process in this case.

Dated: September 20, 2019

#### Respectfully Submitted,

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Charles C. Lifland, hereby certify that the foregoing document was served on September 20, 2019 via electronic transfer to all counsel of record, consistent with the Court's order.

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